MISSISSIPPI ADVISORY COMMISSION ON MARINE RESOURCES

COMMISSION MEETING

Tuesday, January 19, 2020
9:00 a.m.
Zoom Webinar

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Commission Members:

Ronnie Daniels, Chairman
Natalie Guess, Vice Chairman
Steve Bosarge
Mark Havard

Also Present:

Joe Spraggins, Executive Director DMR
Sandy Chesnut, Esq., Assistant Attorney General

Lucille Morgan, CSR 1251
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(228) 396-8788
COMMISSIONER DANIELS: We will call the January 19th, 2021, Commission on Marine Resources meeting to order.

I would like to ask Commissioner Guess to lead us in our Pledge of Allegiance.

(Pledge of Allegiance recited.)

COMMISSIONER DANIELS: Thank you, Commissioner Guess.

Today, I think we will do something a little bit different.

If you don’t mind, Director, could you start us out with a prayer this morning, instead of just a moment of silence?

JOE SPRAGGINS: I would be more than glad to.

Gracious Heavenly Father, we just ask that you take this group of people and give us the knowledge and wisdom to do the things you would have us to do and to run this agency the way you would have it done.

Lord, lead, guide and direct each one of us, keep us all healthy and safe and, Lord, just bless America. We ask this in Jesus Christ’s name. Amen.

COMMISSIONER DANIELS: Thank you for that, Director.
Can we get approval of the minutes from the December 15th, 2020, meeting?

COMMISSIONER BOSARGE: So moved, Mr. Chairman.

COMMISSIONER DANIELS: Commissioner Bosarge makes the motion.

Do I have a second?

COMMISSIONER GUESS: Second.

COMMISSIONER DANIELS: Was that you, Natalie?

COMMISSIONER GUESS: Yes.

COMMISSIONER DANIELS: Natalie seconds.

All those in favor.

Commissioner Guess?

COMMISSIONER GUESS: Aye.

COMMISSIONER DANIELS: Commissioner Bosarge?

COMMISSIONER BOSARGE: Aye.

COMMISSIONER DANIELS: Commissioner Havard?

(No response.)

COMMISSIONER DANIELS: I'm not sure we've got him on.

Commissioner Daniels is an aye.

JOE SPRAGGINS: He's on there, but I don't know why he's not talking.

COMMISSIONER DANIELS: Mark, can you hear us?

(No response.)

COMMISSIONER DANIELS: We've got three voting
yes, approving the minutes.

Can we get a motion to approve today's agenda?

COMMISSIONER GUESS: I'll make a motion.

COMMISSIONER DANIELS: Commissioner Guess makes the motion. I'll second it.

All those in favor.

Commissioner Guess?

(No response.)

COMMISSIONER DANIELS: I think something is going on with her microphone. We will come back to her.

Commissioner Bosarge?

COMMISSIONER BOSARGE: Aye.

COMMISSIONER DANIELS: Commissioner Daniels is an aye.

Commissioner Guess, are you there?

COMMISSIONER GUESS: Aye.

COMMISSIONER DANIELS: Commissioner Havard, are you here yet?

(No response.)

COMMISSIONER DANIELS: We've got three to zero to approve today's agenda.

Director, are you ready?

JOE SPRAGGINS: I am.

COMMISSIONER DANIELS: Turning it over to you.

JOE SPRAGGINS: I've got a slide for employment
and contracts.

    Patrick Webb is now one of our Lieutenants. He got promoted in Marine Patrol.
    Courtney Walker has been promoted to Marine Fisheries IV.
    Brittany Crews is now Lead Contract Analyst. She was just hired in the place Michele Williams was in and she moved down to CZM.
    Janie Ballew is a new Procurement Specialist.
    We are about full up in that area. That is good to have those.
    Any questions on that?
    (No response.)

    JOE SPRAGGINS: No new contracts.

    Then, we will move on to agency update. Well, obviously, the session is in. We have been talking to the legislators on a regular basis and the governor’s office.

    One of the things that I’m hoping to have for today, they are having an appropriations meeting for special funds and I couldn’t be there for it, but I’m hoping that they will give us the additional spending authority to be able to spend the Tidelands.

    What happened was last year when they did it, they only gave us seven point one million, or seven point three million, whatever the number was, and never is
enough when you have outstanding and, when we say outstanding, they didn’t give us enough of managed project funding to be able to take the things that we have with USM and a lot of the things that we are doing here with water quality and other things and be able to do the tests.

We were able to pay the salaries and they gave us a little bit, but, we weren’t able to do a lot of the work that we have. So it was a little over two million dollars worth that we had to put on hold and, hopefully, once they break that loose, we will be able to start everybody back and that should be, hopefully, this week, or next week. That will be a big thing for us.

We have three bills sitting at the House and the Senate. One of the bills is to be able to take Marine Patrol officers who have been retired under the PERS system under some other agency and allow them to be a Marine Patrol Reserve; not Marine Patrol Officer, but as a Marine Patrol Reserve.

If somebody retired from like Gulfport PD, or Biloxi, or Harrison County, or something else, and they are under the PERS system, this will allow us to be able to let them work with us as Reserve Officers which is right. We are the only agency in the state that does not have that capability, and they are going to fix it for us,
I hope, and I know that Representative Felsher dropped that bill. So we will see.

The other one is the high water mark and that is to be able to straighten out the high water mark that we had with the issue before so that we can be able to tell people, without them having to go to the Corps, or somewhere else, about being able to build a bulkhead.

   Last year they had some questions about the wording and this year I think we've got it straightened out.

   The other one is to clarify some issues on 827, House Bill 827.

   All of those are being put in. We are waiting on that to come back. Hopefully, they will all hit and the Senate and the House vote. They claim they are going to drop them. We will see what happens.

   There are a couple of other bills out there. There is one that has been dropped by one of the House members that says that everything that you do to seafood has to be marked -- basically, if you have a menu, or whatever -- where it came from.

   I've got some issues with that and I talked with some of the legislators about it and I told them, I said, let's just make sure we don't make this crazy.

   Once again, I don't mind -- if somebody is
selling Asian shrimp, or something like that, or China, or wherever they came from, I don’t mind putting that. That is not the question.

I just don’t want to put an undue process on all of the people who have -- basically, the restaurants and all, they have to change their menu every hour.

They are working on that. The legislators are good. They are great people. They will work it out.

I’m not saying that it is wrong. Just be careful with it.

Any questions on what is going on in Jackson?

(No response.)

JOE SPRAGGINS: I have not heard about the Commissioners. We have three Commissioners for reappointment, or either to appoint someone else.

I talked with the governor’s office about that last week again, and they said everybody is covered until the end of the 2021 session. As long as this session is not sine die, then, you are fine. Everybody is covered.

It is just taking time. Everybody has got a lot to do. Please be patient with us on that.

Any other questions?

(No response.)

JOE SPRAGGINS: CARES Act. We got the approval from the governor’s office yesterday, as a matter of fact,
to go forward with the CARES Act.

   Just to give you an idea, I wish I had a slide.

We got the last minute on this.

   Just to give you an idea, we had a hundred and eighty-seven commercial fishing personnel file. A hundred and sixty-eight of them were found eligible and nineteen ineligible.

   Out of charter boats, we had forty-nine apply. Forty-four were found eligible and five ineligible.

   Out of dealers, we had twenty apply. Thirteen were found eligible and seven ineligible.

   We will start giving the funds out this week, hopefully.

   Traci is sending that to Gulf States as we speak.

   Traci, are you on?

   TRACI FLOYD: Yes, sir.

   We will be sending that along to Gulf States, and they are advising it is taking about four weeks to get the payments out.

   It has to go through a review by NOAA and we will be helping them with that.

   JOE SPRAGGINS: Traci, I think it's okay for us to give the numbers out, since we are sending it to Gulf States.
Right?

TRACI FLOYD: It will still have to be approved by NOAA, sir.

JOE SPRAGGINS: So you want to wait, before we do that?

TRACI FLOYD: Yes, sir.

JOE SPRAGGINS: I don’t want to give the wrong numbers out and somebody come back and say, well, I didn’t get that.

Let’s just leave that as it is right now, and we will give you the numbers of how much each one is going to get, as soon as we get that approved by NOAA, and that shouldn’t take too long. Hopefully, that will go pretty quick.

Any questions on the CARES Act from any of the Commissioners?

COMMISSIONER BOSARGE: Mr. Joe, I believe the request we had last time was for that information.

That’s the reason we didn’t get it is we are waiting to get it all straight, before you send it out?

JOE SPRAGGINS: Well, I thought we sent it out. We sent y’all what we had, I think. We do not the numbers.

COMMISSIONER BOSARGE: I haven’t received anything, Mr. Joe.
JOE SPRAGGINS: Okay. I'm going to go back. I am almost sure we did. Let me go back and double check, but I am sorry because I remember us looking at it.

COMMISSIONER DANIELS: I got that email the day after the meeting, I believe, or the afternoon of the meeting, Joe.

JOE SPRAGGINS: Commissioner Bosarge, I will get it sent to you ASAP.

Did anyone else not get it?

Commissioner Guess, did you get it?

COMMISSIONER GUESS: I got it, and all of us are on that email that you sent. It was from December 15th.

JOE SPRAGGINS: It could have been a glitch, Commissioner Bosarge, but we will resend you one.

Okay?

COMMISSIONER BOSARGE: Joe, you know how it is. I probably just missed it. I caught myself looking, but evidently I missed it, but I will look again.

JOE SPRAGGINS: It isn't anything unusual in the world of my days.

I will get it to you ASAP.

Okay?

COMMISSIONER BOSARGE: All right. Thank you, sir.

JOE SPRAGGINS: Any other questions?
JOE SPRAGGINS: I’m glad to see we are getting some money moving on the CARES Act. The Bonnet Carre, we are still waiting on NOAA. We have sent it in and we have given the spend plan to them on how we would like to do it.

Once again, I don’t want to put out the numbers on that either, until we get something back from NOAA to tell us that they can do it.

As soon as we get that back, then, we will let y’all know, as far as the Commission, as to what the spend plan is and, hopefully, we will get that back soon.

Rick, are you on?

RICK BURRIS: Yes, sir.

JOE SPRAGGINS: Any update, other than that?

RICK BURRIS: No, sir.

As we were kind of anticipating, this is a pretty lengthy process, but, as soon as we get back their review, we will start working on a rebuttal and it will go back and forth, and, then, we will finally get that approved plan.

JOE SPRAGGINS: As soon as we can get something out of it and, once again, I’m pretty sure there is a big shakeup in NOAA right now, with the new regime taking over the presidency tomorrow, and I’m sure that there will be
some changes in the direction and who is in charge. This
can take us a little bit longer than what we anticipated,
just because of that. So everybody bear with us.

Any questions on the Bonnet Carre?

(No response.)

JOE SPRAGGINS:  Action Update from prior
meeting, Sandy.

SANDY CHESNUT:  There were three items discussed
at the December meeting.

The first one was to establish a no wake zone
for Simmons Bayou around the area of Eagle Pine Island.

The second was the closed season for the use of
 crab traps in public waters for derelict crab trap clean-
up for ten days between January 15th and February 15th.

The third was a State Saltwater Finfish Record
for All Tackle for Striped Mullet for Joey Beasarcon, Sr.

The Commission recommended approval of all the
above and the Director approved the requests, and there
are no pending items.

JOE SPRAGGINS:  Any questions, Commissioners?

(No response.)

JOE SPRAGGINS:  Sonja, you have the Tidelands
Update?

SONJA SLATER:  Yes, sir, I do.

This is the FY2023 Tidelands schedule for
applications. We will start accepting again on May 31st and we will stop accepting on July 1st. Everything else is set up the same as every year.

We should know in April of 2022 what the 2021 awards are, and we will send out the project awards in November, or December.

The next slide, please.

We received a hundred and thirteen applications that were submitted in our 2022 proposal cycle, and sixty-three were public access, fifty were managed projects.

There was a total of forty million six hundred and forty-six thousand nineteen dollars requested.

We were only appropriated seven million three forty-nine for this year. Obviously, we are not going to have enough funds to fill all of the requests that we received in 2022.

Next slide.

The public access awards were awarded by the legislature. So all of these cities and counties have already received their awards.

They awarded a total of five million one zero nine to public access projects. Eighteen of them went to the cities, three of them went to the board of supervisors and there were two miscellaneous projects which don’t fit into the city, or board of supervisors, category.
Next slide, please.

The managed projects awards have not yet been awarded. Joe can elaborate on that. If you include the bond payment, we were allocated two point two million, but, of course, you can see the bond payment was one million point two. We have been holding off on the managed projects funds and waiting for this legislative cycle to allot us some more money.

JOE SPRAGGINS: Sonja, it is not necessarily a lot more money. It is just they need to give us spending authority, and the reason for that is the million thirty-nine, that was not even enough to really pay the salaries that we have under it, Commissioners. So what we are doing is we have held off doing any managed projects, other than water quality. We are doing that and we are stretching it a little bit to be able to take care of that to make sure that the seafood is safe to eat.

Other than that, we are just mainly paying salaries and hope that we will get that straightened out with the new -- it's called the Deficit Spending Bill that will come out that will have the additional spending authority so we can go forward.

SONJA SLATER: That is all I had, Joe, unless anyone had any other questions.

JOE SPRAGGINS: Commissioner Daniels, that is my
report, as far as the Executive Director, unless you have anything else you would like to address.

COMMISSIONER DANIELS: Thank you for that, Joe. Commissioners report.

Do we have any Commissioners to report anything today?

COMMISSIONER HAVARD: I do not, Commissioner Daniels.

COMMISSIONER DANIELS: There he is. Welcome, Mark.

Joe, if I may, I just thought about this while we were sitting here. I would have brought it up to you earlier, if I had thought about it ahead of time.

This past year, we went out and marked some concrete in Bay St. Louis that is a very clear hazard to boaters and safety.

That stuff has all gone away again now, and I think we need to look into getting something a little more permanent over there. Especially during these winter months whenever we've got these lower tides, we've got concrete that is literally an inch, or two, under the water over there.

Whenever I got on the boat and went out with Marine Patrol to look at it, we hit a couple of pieces of it.
If we could look back into that and see about getting something a little more permanent over there to mark that to keep people from tearing their boats up, or possibly getting hurt.

JOE SPRAGGINS: Commissioner Daniels, are you talking about the stuff around the bridge, or are you talking somewhere else?

COMMISSIONER DANIELS: Yes. It is that same stuff that we went out and looked at last year, and the department went out and put some markers up around it to kind of let people know that it is there, but those markers are now gone with the storm and everything that went through.

JOE SPRAGGINS: Commissioner, if you don’t mind, hang on one second.

Chief, are you on?

I think y’all have already gone out and marked that differently, haven’t you?

KYLE WILKERSON: Yes. As a matter of fact, within this last month we just went out and put several buoys along that perimeter and it says “HAZARD” on it. So it has been covered, Commissioner.

COMMISSIONER DANIELS: Oh. Great. I have not been over there in the past couple of weeks. We had talked about it a month, or month-and-a-half ago,
something like that. That is great. Thank you. I didn’t know about it.

That’s all I’ve got.

Chief, while you are on here, you want to go ahead and take over?

KYLE WILKERSON: Sure. I hope everybody is well, Director, Commissioners, counsel.

Seeing last Commission report, my newly appointed Captain Michael Strickland did such a phenomenal job I am going to let him entertain this one.

Go ahead, Michael.

MICHAEL STRICKLAND: Good morning Commissioners, Director, counsel. I hope everybody is doing well after the holidays.

We sent it over and hope everybody has had a chance to review the Marine Patrol report.

As you will notice, everything that we cited for violations, or courtesy, is pretty typical for this time of the year.

If there are any questions, I will entertain any questions that you may have at this time.

COMMISSIONER BOSARGE: I was curious about where you’ve got the crab traps, seventeen.

Is that because it was seventeen traps, or is that seventeen different people?
MICHAEL STRICKLAND: That was seventeen traps recovered, sir.

COMMISSIONER BOSARGE: I figured it had to be. I didn't figure it was that many people stealing crab traps. I appreciate it.

MICHAEL STRICKLAND: Yes, sir. If there are no other questions, I will turn it back over. Thank you.


JENNIFER WITTMANN: Good morning. We have two items on our agenda today. Willa Brantley will be doing a quick review of our permitting actions from 2020, and, then, Jennifer Wilder has a regulated activity.

WILLA BRANTLEY: Good morning. This is Willa. This is just a one slide quick little update of all of the actions that the permitting staff took during the calendar year of 2020.

As you can see, there were six hundred and seventy-two total actions. Five hundred and sixty-two of those were regulated activities, or Coastal Zone consistency determinations, where we review Federal permits that are being issued mostly by the Corps of Engineers. We also review oil and gas exploration
development out on the outer Continental Shelf. So some of those have to do with that.

We also did ninety-six reviews of projects to see if they were regulated, also pre-application meetings and discussions with potential applicants.

Then, we had fourteen violations that were investigated, during the year.

We just wanted to point out the total of what we do and remind the Commissioners that you see actually very little of what we do presented to you, but the permitting staff is always hard at work reviewing activities and meeting with potential applicants and investigating potential violations.

If you have any questions, I can answer those now.

(No response.)

WILLA BRANTLEY: I guess no questions.

We will move on to Jennifer Wilder.

JENNIFER WILDER: This is Jennifer Wilder and I am presenting a request for a permit by Jackson County Board of Supervisors.

They are requesting a ten-year permit for the renourishment of Front and East Beach in Ocean Springs and Pascagoula Beach.

It is in the General Use District and the agent
is Seymour Engineering.

On Front Beach, you are looking at five thousand three hundred and twenty-five feet in length and a hundred feet in width for seven thousand seven hundred cubic yards of sand.

East Beach is five thousand six hundred and ninety feet in length, a hundred feet in width and nine thousand eight hundred cubic yards of sand.

Pascagoula Beach is ten thousand four hundred and ninety-six feet in length, and it ranges from a hundred and twenty-five to a hundred and fifty feet in width. It is a total of thirty-seven thousand five hundred cubic yards of sand.

The first renourishment is a total of fifty-five thousand cubic yards of sand, and any other renourishment they do within the ten years, they will be notifying us of what they need to do.

They requested a variance from the Coastal Program:

“Permanent filing of coastal wetlands below the mean high tide line because of potential adverse and cumulative environmental impacts is not authorized.”

They are justifying that request:

“Impacts to Coastal Wetlands would be
no worse than if the guidelines were
followed.”
The notification for the project appeared in the
Sun Herald as required by law, and we received no public
comments.
DEQ had no comments.
Archives and History had no objections.
The Secretary of State says this does not
present any Public Trust Tidelands Lease issues.
Wildlife, Fisheries and Parks had no comments.
Based on departmental review and evaluation,
staff recommends approval of the applicant's request.
Now, the PowerPoint does not include any of the
diagrams because they were about ten pages apiece, but
they were in the information that was posted in the
portal.
Do you have any questions?
COMMISSIONER BOSARGE: Yes. I had one question.
I looked. I didn’t see any diagrams. It looked like the
short presentation, short version of the presentation.
All of the sand that we are putting on there,
where is it going?
In other words, we keep putting it back.
Do you know where it is going?
Has anybody looked at that?
JENNIFER WILDER: Yes, sir. I think that it is just natural erosion.

COMMISSIONER BOSARGE: So eroding off into the water?

JENNIFER WILDER: Yes, sir, or blowing up onto the beach.

COMMISSIONER BOSARGE: Blowing up on the beach?

JENNIFER WILDER: Yes, sir, just the natural...

COMMISSIONER BOSARGE: So there is no way to retrieve what we are putting there, instead of putting more?

JENNIFER WILDER: Once it goes up on the roads, you can’t retrieve it because it’s got the different oils and things from the roadways.

Jackson County not so far as I know of, but sometimes in situations they do go offshore and dredge and bring the sand back up, but that is not what Jackson County typically does. They are using a company that they have been using for years that they say they are under contract with to bring in the sand.

COMMISSIONER BOSARGE: I can see just looking at the beach it is about time that they add to it because it is starting to hold water in places.

JENNIFER WILDER: Yes, sir, and the portal has the different diagrams for each of the beaches on there.
and it also has a picture. I know you are familiar with what the beaches look like, but it also has a picture of each beach.

COMMISSIONER BOSARGE: I went to the portal and all I got was the same thing that you just showed us. I tried to look at it, but that was all I could get. Anyhow, it is all good.

JOE SPRAGGINS: Commissioner, tell me if I’m wrong, but I think this is basically that you can replenish by counting a certain amount of feet, and I know in Harrison County I think it is around two hundred and thirty feet from the seawall that they can replenish without having to go to the Corps, or anyone else, and they can do it, like she said, two ways. They can either bring in the sand from somewhere else and put it there, or they can dredge it, and it depends on the permit of how they were permitted.

I think Jackson County was not permitted to dredge. It was only permitted to refill. Is that correct, Willa?

WILLA BRANTLEY: Yes, sir, that’s correct.

JOE SPRAGGINS: Basically, all they are doing is refilling what they have on a normal basis. Is that correct?

WILLA BRANTLEY: Yes, sir. It is the existing

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footprint of each of the beaches that they are asking to refill to.

JOE SPRAGGINS: Commissioner, does that help you any?

COMMISSIONER BOSARGE: Yes, sir. That's all the questions I had, Mr. Joe.

JOE SPRAGGINS: Okay.

JENNIFER WITTMANN: That is all for our office.

COMMISSIONER BOSARGE: I will make the motion to accept the staff’s recommendation.

COMMISSIONER DANIELS: We have a motion for the recommendation.

Do we have a second?

COMMISSIONER HAVARD: Commissioner Havard will second.

COMMISSIONER DANIELS: We have a motion and a second.

All those in favor.

Commissioner Guess?

COMMISSIONER GUESS: Aye.

COMMISSIONER DANIELS: Commissioner Daniels, aye.

Commissioner Bosarge?

COMMISSIONER BOSARGE: Aye.

COMMISSIONER DANIELS: Commissioner Havard?
COMMISSIONER HAVARD:  Aye.

COMMISSIONER DANIELS:  Four to zero. Motion passes.

COMMISSIONER DANIELS:  Next presentation, Finance and Administration, Ms. Leslie.

LESLIE BREWER:  Good morning Director, Commissioners, legal.

My name is Leslie Brewer, CFO. I will be presenting the Agency’s financials for the month ending December 31st, 2020.

Slide, please, Brady.

At the end of December, our State Revenue was three point eight million. Our Total Agency Revenue was thirteen point two million.

Our State Net Income was nine hundred and eighteen thousand, and our Total Agency Net Income was two point two million.

Next slide.

After six months of fiscal year 2021, we have eighty-four point three percent of the Operating Budget remaining, while the Tidelands Budget is at sixty-one percent.

Does anyone have any questions?

COMMISSIONER BOSARGE:  I had one question. It wasn’t necessarily with the budget.
When Jamie was here, Mr. Joe, he set up the
yearly audit.

Are we still doing that?

JOE SPRAGGINS: Yes, sir. We have an audit
every year.

Leslie, did we get a report on it?

LESLIE BREWER: No, sir. Actually, we have been
talking this morning. They are about to issue the report.
We are just waiting to get some things worked out.

JOE SPRAGGINS: We get one every year, sir, and
as soon as get the final report, you will get a copy of
it.

LESLIE BREWER: Oh, yes. I haven't gotten it
yet. I have just got the draft.

COMMISSIONER BOSARGE: Yes, I would like to see
it, once we get it.

JOE SPRAGGINS: Yes, sir. As soon as we get it,
we will. We will put it out to the public for everybody.

I know they were finalizing it. I just didn’t
know if they had ever finished it.

COMMISSIONER BOSARGE: Thank you, Mr. Joe.

JOE SPRAGGINS: Also, Commissioners, just to
give you an update, last year they would not audit our
GOMESA. So we paid for an individual audit on GOMESA last
year, a separate one, but this year I think it is
Is that correct?

LESLIE BREWER: It is, yes, sir.

JOE SPRAGGINS: So we didn’t have to pay for a separate one.

LESLIE BREWER: Correct.

JOE SPRAGGINS: But we want to have everything that we have -- any dime that we spend, we want it audited.

We are doing that and we had to pay, I think it was like eight thousand dollars, or something like that, just to get one on the GOMESA, but I just told them. I said, we have got to have it because I’m not going to go without it.

If you haven’t gotten copies of any of it, I’m sure they are on the portal.

If they are not, if you need a copy of something, we will get it to you.

COMMISSIONER BOSARGE: Good deal. That is good checks and balances.

JOE SPRAGGINS: I am probably the only person in the state that asks for audits.

COMMISSIONER DANIELS: Ms. Charmaine, are you on?

CHARMAINE SCHMERMUND: I am.
Good morning Commissioners, Director Spraggins, Ms. Chesnut.

The Mississippi Department of Marine Resources was mentioned nineteen times in local, state and national media since the December CMR meeting.

Popular news items included a vessel fire in Pascagoula, the derelict crab trap removal taking place later this month and the CARES Act application reopening.

Marine Patrol assisted in various events that included Christmas on the Water, Christmas on the Bayou and the Lazy Gator Boat Parade.

Rick Burris, Deputy Director for the Office of Marine Fisheries, was named a Certified Fisheries Professional, established by the Board of Professional Certification through the American Fisheries Society.

That's all I have this month.

COMMISSIONER DANIELS: Thank you, Charmaine.

No public comments, Joe?

JOE SPRAGGINS: No, sir. No public comments, at this time.

COMMISSIONER DANIELS: Nothing out of Marine Fisheries today.

Does anyone have any other business?

COMMISSIONER HAVARD: I have one thing, Commissioner Daniels.
Director Spraggins, what is the status on a new appointment for the Chief Scientific Officer?

JOE SPRAGGINS: We are doing interviews this week.

COMMISSIONER HAVARD: Fantastic. Thank you.

COMMISSIONER DANIELS: Thank you, Mark. Thank you, Joe.

If we don't have any public comments, it sounds like that is all we have for today.

Can I get a motion to adjourn?

COMMISSIONER HAVARD: I make a motion that we adjourn the meeting of the Commissioner on Marine Resources.

COMMISSIONER DANIELS: I'll second the motion.

All those in favor.

Commissioner Guess?

COMMISSIONER GUESS: Aye.

COMMISSIONER DANIELS: Commissioner Bosarge?

COMMISSIONER BOSARGE: Aye.

COMMISSIONER DANIELS: Commissioner Havard?

COMMISSIONER HAVARD: Aye.

COMMISSIONER DANIELS: Commissioner Daniels, aye.

Everyone have a nice day. Thank you.

JOE SPRAGGINS: Thank y'all.
CERTIFICATE

I, Lucille Morgan, Certified Shorthand Reporter, to hereby certify that the above and foregoing thirty pages, including this page, is a true and correct transcription of the zoom webinar of the January 19, 2021, meeting of the Mississippi Advisory Commission on Marine Resources, to the best of my skill and ability; and, further, that I am not a relative, employee, or agent, of any of the parties thereto, nor financially interested in the cause.

s/ LUCILLE MORGAN, CSR 1251
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